

Argument Against Proposition 3

*Does Prop 3 look familiar?* It should.

We saw a water-related measure on the June ballot, with similar words. In fact, since 1996, there have been eight statewide bond measures committing money to water issues. So far the total amount is more than 29 Billion Dollars!

*What do we have to show for all that money?* Not one thing that will get us more water.

California is basically a desert. Without dams collecting rain and snow-melt from the mountains, extensive agriculture in the Central Valley would not exist. Our cities would be a fraction of their present populations.

Despite a decades-long drought, not one penny of that \$29 Billion went to build a new dam. The near-catastrophic failure at northern California's Oroville Dam last year showed that the State doesn't even take care of its existing dams.

Instead of projects that would capture or store more of the precious precipitation that California gets, officials pander to special interests and pour millions of dollars into parks, hiking trails, wildlife -- like a little bait-fish in the Sacramento River -- and things that have nothing to do with solving the State's water shortages. Half the water in our rivers just runs into the Pacific Ocean.

Politicians tried to prove that they're serious about conserving water; they passed a law requiring cities to clamp down on us water-wasters. At the end of 2020, we'll be limited to 55 gallons per resident per day for indoor residential use. And to make sure we get the message, the allowance drops to 50 gallons in 2030. What happens to our trees and landscaping?

If you don't have greenery in your yard and think the problem doesn't affect you, drive down I-5 in the San Joaquin Valley. You'll see huge areas of bare land where farmers don't have the water to keep their trees and crops alive. Farms which feed much of the Nation have been hit by politically-driven water policies and lack of foresight.

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*How do the proponents of Prop 3 want to spend \$8.9 Billion? Pretty much like before.*

You can read the details; but note that – again – there isn't one penny for a new dam. A little more than \$4 Billion – almost half – is going to "disadvantaged communities" with no explanation of who or where they are.

Let's get to the important thing. *How much is this going to cost us?*

Number-crunchers estimate that interest on the bonds will almost double the total amount that has to be paid to the lenders. In other words, paying back the \$8.9 Billion Dollar "loan" will cost the State – that's us taxpayers – about \$17.3 Billion. It averages out to about \$433 Million per year for 40 years.

That has to mean more taxes!

*Do we want to give politicians another \$9 Billion Dollars to do the same things that haven't gotten us one drop of water? And the money coming out of our pockets?*

Think about it. No on Prop 3!

Central Solano Citizen/Taxpayer Group  
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